Reading Section in the Government Press.

76. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Press Committee have severely criticised the working of the Reading Section and, if so, what they have done to improve its efficiency?

(*b*) Are the incumbents now recommended to be put in the revised scale properly qualified and competent to do the work in that Section?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Press Committee have commented on the lack of qualifications among the subordinates of the Reading Section. The recommendations made by the Press Committee for improving the efficiency of that Section were sanctioned by Government and the pay of the employees revised so as to attract a better class of men.

(*b*) The nominations are being scrutinised.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : With regard to part (*b*), may I know whether any person degraded for gross misbehaviour in the Press is recommended for being promoted in the nomination list?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I cannot say that. The answer to (*b*) is that the nominations are being scrutinised. Until that is over, Government cannot say who are the men that will be promoted and whether they are undesirable persons. Government cannot say that now.

Employees of the Government Press working in other Departments.

77. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : (1) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list showing the name, designation, qualification, pay and service of those employees of the Government Press who are working in places other than those in which they are appointed?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to say why this irregular interchanging of subordinates should be encouraged?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) No employees of the Government Press are working in places other than those in which they are appointed.

(2) No arrangement of the kind has ever been encouraged.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : May I know who the time-keeper is and what his permanent post in the Press is?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : The answer to part (1) of the question is: "No employees of the Government Press are working in places other than those in which they are appointed." I want to know whether any person is put in a different place. That answer ought to have been given.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly